



Meeting Notes

Committee Meeting

August 14, 2014 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Town of Wallkill Town Hall, Building A, Wallkill, NY

Attendance:

Town of Wallkill Committee:

Frank LoSauro
Robert Beemer
Sal Lucido
Neil Meyer

New York State Dept. of State:

Lisa Melville
William C. Harding

Tetra Tech, Inc.:

Emily Slotnick
Susan Roth

Town of Wallkill

Dan Depew, Supervisor
Lou Ingrassia, Jr., Commissioner of Public Works

Agenda Item: Welcome/Meetings

Presenter: Tetra Tech/Slotnick

Summary of Discussion:

1. The committee discussed Public Engagement Meeting #1 held on 7/24/2014. Public Engagement Meeting #2 will be held on September 4, 2014 from 7-9 p.m. at the Town of Wallkill Town Hall.
2. The format of Public Engagement Meeting #2 will be more focused on a presentation than Public Engagement Meeting #1, with information on the Risk Assessment Models and Hydraulic Models as part of the presentation. An expert from Tetra Tech will give a presentation to the committee members prior to Public Engagement Meeting #2 on the use of hydraulic modelling in the NYRCR Town of Wallkill Plan. The Vision Statement and the Critical Asset List will be presented as final at this meeting. There will be photos of the storm damage, a map that relates the damage to the photos, and other aids to help the public understand the hydraulic modeling and why it is important to the process. The Needs and Opportunities will also be presented as a draft for public input.
3. Outreach for Public Engagement Meeting #2 will occur the following ways:
 - Postcards will be mailed to residents. Optimally the postcards should reach mailboxes 3-4 days before the meeting. Committee members agreed that mailing post cards has the potential to be more effective than advertisements in the paper.
 - The committee members agreed to promote the public engagement meeting through Facebook and through their own email contacts, and by hanging signs in local businesses. Tetra Tech will supply the signs and the Town Supervisors office agreed to be a point of distribution for the signs to committee members. There was a short discussion of whether or not Twitter could be used as well.

- A program to help private dam owners upgrade dam gates could be an opportunity to effectively create more storage capacity upstream of severe flooding areas.
- The potential of a farmers market to increase farm revenue was discussed by the committee, and would help to create a sense of place in one of the hamlets. There are several farms and organizations (Cornell Cooperative Extension and Farm Credit Bureau) that could help with the establishment of a farmers market, and there are several locations that could be explored.

4. Health and Human Services:

- The installation of check valves in homes to prevent sewer backflow was discussed as a potential program. The Town recently changed its building requirements to require back-flow check valves. It was noted that the problems experienced with sanitary sewer infiltration and inflow would likely be solved if residential sump pumps were not pumping into the sewer lines. There is an opportunity to create an educational and incentive program to address illegal sump pump hookups into sewers and to install check valves.
- The committee noted that several areas were cut off from one another during Irene, including access to the emergency clinics. Resolving flooding issues along the major arterials where these facilities are located would help to make these facilities available during emergencies.

5. Housing

- It was noted that the Town's sewer system capacity would be better maintained if sump pumps were corrected to discharge into daylight instead of into the sewer. There is data available to demonstrate the impact of the rainfall on the sewer treatment plant.
- There is a need to analyze opportunities to retrofit and expand storm water storage capacity, and enforce the maintenance of existing storm water facilities.
- The Town has begun a program to acquire property that is repetitively flooded to increase and maintain flood capacity. The details of this program will be provided to Tetra Tech.
- Impervious surface coverage maximums on lots, especially residential homes, should be examined and explored, especially in the R-1 and R-2 Zoning Districts.

6. Natural and Cultural Resources

- The town has the opportunity to create passive recreation on the Palisades Interstate Parkway (PIP) land within the Town, in return for management of the land.

7. Community Planning and Capacity Building

- One of the most important challenges of this community is the lack of an identity. The committee noted that a few areas have begun to try to create a "town commercial center" in centering around the intersection of Washington Heights on 17M. The town submitted a Consolidated Funding Application for streetscape improvements in Circleville for streetscape improvements in the business center.
- It has been a challenge to incorporate Traditional Neighborhood higher density design into the zoning code. Many of the existing Town approval authorities would like to maintain large lots and less dense development.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N.A.

Action Items:	Person Responsible:	Due Date:
Obtain copy of program materials for flooded property acquisition	Tetra Tech	A.S.A.P.
Obtain copy of Circleville CFA Grant application	Tetra Tech	A.S.A.P.
Request sewer treatment logs for rain events	Tetra Tech	A.S.A.P.

Agenda Item: Upcoming Meetings/Other items Presenter: Tetra Tech/Slotnick

Summary of Discussion:

1. Tetra Tech was not able to arrange for a committee meeting tour of the Town of Walkkill and provided a guide for the committee members to use on self tours. Committee members agreed to use the materials provided to look at areas prior to the next meeting.
2. The next meeting is a Committee Meeting and will be held on August 28th, from 5-7. This meeting will include the Hydraulic HEC/RAS presentation that will be given at the public meeting on September 4th.
3. Prior to the September 4th Public Engagement Meeting #2, the committee will meet an hour before the meeting to discuss final details of the Public Engagement Meeting. The committee meeting will start at 6:00.
4. The regularly scheduled September 11th Committee Meeting is canceled due to a Town memorial service to be held that day. The meeting will be rescheduled for Wednesday, September 10th.
5. The next committee meeting after September 4th will be held on September 10th from 5-7 at 5:00.

Decisions/Motions/Votes: N/A

Action Items:	Person Responsible:	Due Date:
Provide Self tours to Committee members	Tetra Tech	A.S.A.P.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N/A

End of Meeting Notes